MR. T. C. THOMMEN: No. But it is known from the Anchal Superintendent that he had received a petition from the inhabitants of Madavoor-Pallikkal, with copy of a resolution passed at a public meeting held at the place on 10th Vrischikam 1104. There was none to furnish security against loss to Government and no action was therefore taken in the matter.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Has the member any defenite information as to whether anybody has offered security or not?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: It is reported that nobody has offered security.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether anybody has offered security so that the Anchal Office could be opened?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: The matter will be enquired into.

Encouragement of Punja cultivators.

21. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that sufficient encouragement should be given to punja cultivators so that their agricultural expenses may be reduced; and

(*b*) whether they have taken any action accordingly?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee have recommended that the State should pursue a policy of active assistance to paddy cultivators so as to enable them to bring down the cost of cultivation and to increse the output of their fields.

(*b*) The Director of Agriculture has proposed certain relief measures which are under the consideration of Government.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know from the member, what are the specific recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee to assist the paddy cultivators?

MR. K. GEORGE: The supply of cheap crude oil from the B. O. Company is the chief recommendation.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Does the member know of the variation in the market rate of the oil supplied by the B. O. C. and other compaines?

MR. K. GEORGE: I have no information.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Is there any other recommendation?

MR. K. GEORGE: The Director of Agriculture has recommended the sale of agricultural implements on hire purchase system and the grant of short term loans.

Imposition of fines on students for default in payment of fees.

22. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON: Will the Government be pleased to state.

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that the system of levying fines on students who fail to pay their fees in time should be discontinued; and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(*b*) whether action is being taken in accordance with that recommendation ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM : (*a*) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee recommended that the fines be discontinued or at least reduced during the period of the depression.

(*b*) Yes ; the fines have been considerably reduced.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Are the Government aware that there are still schools which levy fines for late payment of fees ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM : Yes. Before this recommendation was made the English Schools used to levy 4 chuckarams fine for the 1st 10 days and afterwards at the rate of 12 chuckrams. The Vernacular Schools levied at the rate of 1 chuckram for the 1st 10 days and 4 chuckrams afterwards. Now after the Government order the levy of fines has been considerably reduced. English School fines do not exceed 4 chuckrams and Vernacular School fines do not exceed 1 chuckram. That is the information.

MR. K. K. THOMAS : Does the member know about the levy of fines in aided high schools ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM : I have no information.

Complaints received by Government against Mr. E T. Kurien.

23 *MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received complaints against Mr. E. T. Kurien, First Class Magistrate and District Munsiff, Devicolam, attributing to him grave irregularities in the conduct of criminal cases ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : A petition was received from Shanmugavel Gownden and other cardamom ryots of Devicolam complaining against the alleged official vagaries of Mr. E. T. Kurien, B. A. & B. L., Munsiff-Magistrate, Devicolam.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the member be pleased to state the number of cases filed in the First Class Magistrate's Court, Devicolam, in 1108 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: I claim notice.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: I sent this question long ago. The question remains unanswered.

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Is the member aware that Mr. E. T. Kurien, Munsiff-Magistrate, Devicolam, has, under Section 307 T. P. C. in C. C. No. 87/118, awarded rigorous imprisonment where simple imprisonment or fine has to be given ?

PRESIDENT: Is this one of the complaints made against him ?

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Yes, Sir.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: In the petition received by Government there is no reference to this matter. Therefore I claim notice.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly